



## Northwest Montana Fishing Information Sources

(May, 2010)

- I. Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 490 N. Meridian Rd., Kalispell, MT 59901; (406) 752-5501 for fishing regulations, stocking lists, boating regulations, fishing information guides, lake contour maps.
- II. Several useful maps for finding your way around the area are on sale at U.S. Forest Service Ranger Districts or at the Forest Supervisor's Office:

Flathead National Forest, 650 Wolfpack Way, Kalispell, MT 59901;  
(406) 758-5200

Kootenai National Forest, 506 Highway 2 West, Box AS, Libby, MT 59923;  
(406) 293-6211

Lolo National Forest, Fort Missoula - Bldg. 24, Missoula, MT 59802;  
(406) 329-3750

- III. The following sporting goods stores can provide information on current fishing conditions and fishing tackle:

Bigfork	Two River Gear Flyfishing	(406) 837-3474
	Ferndale Market	(406) 837-5597
	Pap's Woods Bay Market	(406) 837-4884
Columbia Falls	Arends Sporting Goods	(406) 892-2097
Eureka	Northwest Sports	(406) 297-0888
Hot Springs	Main Stop General Store	(406) 741-5133
Hungry Horse	Glacier Fly Shop	(406) 387-4079
Lakeside	Sliters Ace Hardware	(406) 844-2442
Libby	Highline Sports	(406) 293-8178
	Libby Sport Center	(406) 293-4641
	Mac's Market	(406) 293-8693
	Koocanusa Resort & Marina	(406) 293-7474
Kalispell	Sportsman and Ski Haus	(406) 755-6484
	Snappy Sport Senter	(406) 257-7525
	Wal-Mart	(406) 756-7250

Plains	Plains Service, Inc.	(406) 826-5969
Polson	Wal-Mart	(406) 883-9211
Ronan	Ronan Sports and Western	(406) 676-3701
Trout Creek	Lakeside Motel and Resort	(406) 827-4458
West Glacier	Glacier Outdoor Center Fly Shop & Outdoor Store	(406) 888-5454
Whitefish	Lake Stream Flyfishing	(406) 862-1298
	Sportsman and Ski Haus	(406) 862-3111
	Stumptown Anglers Flyfishing	(877) 906-9949

- IV. For fly anglers, a size 5 or 6 fly outfit with a floating double taper or weight forward line will handle most fishing situations in the area. Some popular local patterns are:

Dry: Adams, Elk-hair Caddis, Humpy, Renegade, Joe's Hopper, Light Cahill, Wulff's, Royal Coachman, PMD (Pale Morning Dun), Stimulator  
Wet: Western Coachman, Royal Trude, Wooly Worm, Wooly Bugger  
Nymphs: Hare's Ear, Montana Nymph, Girdle Bug, Zug Bug, Prince Nymph  
Streamers: Muddler, Spruce Fly, Marabou Muddler

Fly sizes generally range from 10-16.

- V. Check with the local Chamber of Commerce or the above sporting goods stores for the names and addresses of local fishing guides. The local Chamber of Commerce offices:

Travel Montana, 1424 9th Ave., P.O. Box 200533, Helena, MT 59620-0533;  
(800) 847-4868  
Flathead Convention and Visitor Bureau, 15 Depot Park, Kalispell, MT 59901;  
(800) 543-3105  
Kalispell--15 Depot Park, Kalispell, MT 59901; (406) 758-2800  
Bigfork--Box 237, Bigfork, MT 59911; (406) 837-5888  
Columbia Falls--Box 312, Columbia Falls, MT 59912; (406) 892-2072  
Eureka--Box 186, Eureka, MT 59917; (406) 297-7800  
Lakeside-Somers--Box 177, Lakeside, MT 59922; (406) 844-3715  
Libby--P.O. Box 704, Libby, MT 59923; (406) 293-4167  
Plains/Paradise--Box 714, Plains, MT 59859; (406) 826-3662  
Polson--Box 667, Polson, MT 59860; (406) 883-5969  
Thompson Falls--Box 493, Thompson Falls, MT 59873; (406) 827-4930  
Whitefish--Box 1120, Whitefish, MT 59937; (406) 862-3501

- VI. For some reading materials on Montana fishing waters, you might want to pick up one or more of the following books from your library or local bookstore:

*The Montanan's Fishing Guide* by Dick Konizeski. There are two volumes: Waters WEST of the Continental Divide (which is our area) and Waters EAST of the Continental Divide. This book would be helpful as it provides contour maps of some of the larger lakes as well as to what species can be found in that body of water. West Volume updated in 1998.

*The Montana Angling Guide* by Chuck Fothergill and Bob Sterling which describes fisheries as well as providing good area maps to locate the fishing holes and access points.

*The Angler's Guide to Montana* by Mike Sample details 16 major trout streams, 70 of their tributaries, and 108 lakes and reservoirs--includes Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks.

*Montana Fishing* by Dale Burke.